

About Skin Cancer

More than a million people will be diagnosed with skin cancer this year.

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More than half of all new cancers are skin cancers.

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One in five Americans will get skin cancer during their lifetime.

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One in four people who develop skin cancer are under the age of 40.

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Nationally, there are more new cases of skin cancer each year than there are new cases of breast, prostate, lung, and colon cancers combined.

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One person dies every hour from skin cancer, primarily melanoma.

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The risk of developing melanoma, the most dangerous form of skin cancer, has more than doubled in the last 10 years.

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We estimate that there will be 1000 new melanoma cases diagnosed in Minnesota in 2005.

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Melanoma is increasing rapidly in women under the age of 40. It is now the most common cancer in young women aged 25-29, and second only to breast cancer in women aged 30-34.

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In national cancer screenings, most of those being screened found to have melanoma are white men over the age of 50.

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The incidence of eye melanomas among white males increased 295% between 1973 and 1999.

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While melanoma is uncommon in African-Americans, Latinos, and Asians, it is most deadly for these groups.

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More than 90% of all skin cancers are caused by sun exposure, yet fewer than 33% of adults, adolescents, and children routinely use sun protection.

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Melanoma accounts for $\frac{3}{4}$ of all deaths from skin cancer. This adds up to over 7,900 American lives a year.

Almost 37% of white female adolescents and over 11% of white male adolescents between 13 and 19 years of age in the United States have used tanning booths.

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The effects of photoaging (skin aging caused by the sun) can be seen as early as in one's 20's.

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Putting proven cancer prevention and early detection techniques into action could eliminate at least 100,000 cancer cases and 60,000 in the U.S. each year.

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